

of petrified wood. The water-bearing strata are of Post Pliocene age.

CONTRIBUTION TO A SOUTH QUEENSLAND FLORA.

BY THE REV. B. SCORTECHINI, L.L.B.

The only department of Australian Botany, which has received as yet any thing like a fair share of study from scientific men, is the taxological department. Much road remains untrodden before we shall go through all the branches of Australian Botany. Many treasures lie hidden under ground, which paleontological Botany will some day bring to light. Many medicinal properties, useful and economic principles, pervade our plants, which botanic chemistry will in future wrest from them. Little or nothing has been done in cryptogamic Botany. Even in systematic Botany not a little is left undone.

If that imperishable monument raised by the genius and labour of Bentham and Mueller—the *Flora Australiensis*—is a sure guide to the classification of Australian plants, and as such cannot be surpassed, yet the distribution of our plants is very imperfectly known. To this knowledge, the compilation of local Floras will lead, a work of time and patience. Few of them as yet exist. Towards the completion of a South Queensland Flora I beg to contribute a list of some plants, which are not known to science as existing in South Queensland. The area in which I met them growing extends from South and West of the Logan waters to the border of the Colony, and the Pacific sea-shore. The President of this Society and Mr. Bailey have already given us a complete census of the Brisbane Flora, which takes a radius of twenty-five miles around Brisbane. The incomplete list I now offer, begins where the Brisbane Flora list ends, on the south side.

Much the same Flora as that of Brisbane prevails in this area, but many inhabitants of the New South Wales Flora enter our

territory without reaching Brisbane. Some of our northern forms of vegetation are here too localized. Thus it is like a place of meeting of the Northern and Southern Flora. There are few which are so local, as to have no representatives either South or North. From the few facts presented by the habitat of these plants, there is no room to make an attempt at generalization. Any particular remark which might be deemed worthy of notice will be appended after each plant. No new species are here described; nor is it likely that we shall find many new ones in this locality. The South Queensland Flora is not isolated, since the South and North Flora meet here, and these being already known from the thorough search instituted elsewhere, little remains unknown. Neither are all the species here mentioned, which while existing elsewhere belong likewise to our Flora. Many inaccessible places are as yet unexplored, many scrubs are not as yet penetrated, many heights are not scaled, many swamps have not been waded through. If it falls to my lot to come by them, I shall present another handful of them, and thus help to a compilation of the Flora of this locality.

DILLENIACEÆ.

Hibbertia dentata, R. Br.

A southern plant, which extends from Victoria through New South Wales into Queensland. Only very sparingly to be found in South Queensland. The northernmost station in which I have met it is Tambourine mountain, thirty miles south of Brisbane; it is more frequently to be seen as we proceed further South. It flowers very early in spring.

CRUCIFERÆ.

Cardamine stylosa, DC.

Like the preceding, a southern plant; it is observed from the eastern coast of Tasmania, through Victoria and New South Wales. Its entrance into Queensland was first noticed by Mr.

W. Hill, at Mount Lindsay. I have seen it growing plentifully at Tambourine Mountain, in localities where the scrub had been cleared. In August it was already in fruit.

CARYOPHYLLÆ.

Stellaria media, Wilh. DC., Prod. I. 397.

As Leichhardt found this on the plains of the Condamine, it is not, strictly speaking, a new member of the Queensland Flora: still no station was noted for it on the eastern side of the ranges. Its beautiful white star-like flowers break the dull monotony of the wet flats along the Albert River in the months of October and November.

MALVACEÆ.

Sida corrugata, Lindl., in Mitch. Three Exped., II, 13.

This most variable plant flowers at Dugundan in November.

STERCULIACEÆ.

Sterculia diversifolia, Don., Gen Syst. I., 516.

It flowers in October at Dugundan.

Melhania incana, Heyne: W. and Arn. Prod. 68.

A small tropical shrub, flowering at Dugundan in the month of March.

RUTACEÆ.

Boronia pinnata, Sm., Tracts. 290, t. 4.

I observed this first in a somewhat dwarfed state trailing on the ground at Nerang Creek, and met it again in Stradbroke Island in a stately form bordering the edges of swamps. A prettier and hardier shrub for ornamental cultivation is hardly to be obtained. Its flowering season runs from August to November.

Boronia parviflora, Sm. Tracts. 295, t. 6.

Another southern *Boronia* entering into Queensland. To call it *parviflora*, seems to be a misnomer if applied to the *Boronia* which grows in Stradbroke Island. After all this might prove to be a large variety of the normal *B. parviflora*. This Stradbroke variety presents all the parts of *B. parviflora* proportionately larger. It flowers in August.

MELIACEÆ.

Owenia venosa, F. Muell.

It grows plentifully on the eastern side of the dividing range at Coochin. Flowers and fruits seen in the month of October.

CELASTRINEÆ.

Celastrus bilocularis, F. Muel., in Trans. Phil. Inst., Vict. III., 31.

The variety of *C. bilocularis* with sharply toothed leaves found growing in Warwick, is to be met with in the Dugundan scrub. From the Tweed (Moore) to the Dawson River (F. Muell.) is its area of growth. Seen flowering in November.

STACKHOUSIÆ.

Stackhousia oviminea, Sm., in Rees. Cycl. XXXIII.

A member of the Brisbane Flora too. In wet sandy places it grows along the Logan road. To be met also on Stradbroke Island. It flowers in November.

LEGUMINOSÆ.

Bossiaea heterophylla, Vent. Jard. Cels. t. 7.

Seen at Burleigh Heads in low, wet, sandy ground, and on Stradbroke Island about sandy ridges.

Crotolaria humifusa, Grah. in Wall. Cat. 5421.

Very seldom to be met with. I have seen only one patch flowering in May, on the Logan River. Mr. Bailey gathered some specimens of it at Enoggora near Brisbane.

Uraria picta, Desv. DC., Prod. II., 324.

Only one specimen, which was got near Beenleigh.

Cassia Brewsteri, F. Muell., 4 Ann. Rep. 17.

It grows at Tallebudgera to a high slender tree in scrubs. At Coochin it does not exceed ten feet high, growing among rocks. Its leaflets are more numerous than those of the normal species, minutely hoary and tomentose. The inflorescence is glabrous. This small variety deserves cultivation, as a prettier sight can hardly be desired. The luxuriance of its golden yellow racemes gracefully drooping, mingled with the deep green of its pinnate leaves claims for it a prominent place in flowering shrubberies. It is in full bloom in November.

Pithecolobium glandiflorum, ? Benth., Flor. Austr. II., 424.

Only seen in fruit, of which no description exists anywhere. It might prove a new species when the flowers can be examined. This good-sized shrub grows along the banks of Tallebudgera Creek. The annular pods, red-yellow outside, orange inside, the outer edge crenate, opening and exhibiting the shining, black and ovate seeds like a set of ebony teeth, give a charming appearance to the whole shrub, when they hang in profusion among its verdant, dense foliage. The branches bear invariably one pair of pinnæ in a long petiole, and each pinna two or three pairs of leaflets of greater consistency, and more markedly veined than those of *P. pruinosum*, acuminate, from three to five inches long, and nearly sessile.

ROSACEÆ.

Rubus Moorei, F. Muell., Frag. IV., 29.

Plentiful on the southern side of Tallebudgera Creek, but never seen on the northern side.

SAXIFRAGÆÆ.

Schizomeria ovata, D. Don, in Edin. Phil. Journ. 1830.

In scrubs a few miles past Nerang Creek to New South Wales, generally a low shrub, though about Burleigh Heads, it grows to a good sized tree. It flowers in October.

Bauera capitata, Ser. in DC. Prod. IV., 13.

A small erect shrub growing near swamps close to Burleigh Heads along with *Calythrix tetragona*, *Strangea linearis*, and many *Ericaceæ*.

DROSERACEÆ.

Drosera binata, Labill., Plant Nov. Holl., I., 78, t. 105.

A gigantic variety growing in swamps in Stradbroke Island. Nearly three feet high. Seen in flower in the month of October.

COMBRETACEÆ.

Lumnitzera racemosa, Willd., DC. Prod. III., 22.

A tropical plant, which attains the proportion of a tree on the coast of the Gulf of Carpentaria, but can scarcely raise its head above the muddy ground near Cleveland, not many miles east of Brisbane.

MYRTACEÆ.

Calythrix tetragona, Labill., Plant. Nov. Holl. II., 8.

This pretty little plant, which was well known in all Australian Colonies, except Queensland, has been observed by me growing abundantly at Burleigh Heads. It chooses for itself sandy soil bordering swamps. Were it not for its fugacious corollas, and the brown reddish hues which the calyx with its filamentous lobes takes, rendering thus this little shrub not altogether

sightly, it should be numbered among ornamental plants. Cultivation might remedy these defects. It flowers in October.

Leptospermum abnorme. F. Muell., Herb.

It is with some hesitation that I introduce this plant into the South Queensland Flora. Its characters do not altogether answer the description of the typical *L. abnorme*. Stradbroke Island.

Syncarpia laurifolia, Ten.

Between Tallebudgera and Nerang Creek.

Myrtus racemulosa, Benth., Fl. Aust. III., 276.

At Tallebudgera among scrubs, flowering profusely in the month of November.

ONAGRARIÆ.

Epilobium junceum, Forst., in Spreng. Syst. II., 233.

Not very common along the Logan River, and Christmas Creek.

FICOIDEI.

Mesembryanthemum aequilaterale, Hook., Fl. Tasm. I., 146.

Common along the sea-coast from Nerang Creek to Burleigh Heads.

UMBELLIFERÆ.

Xanthosia pilosa, Rudge, in Trans. Lin. Soc. X., 131.

Stradbroke Island.

ARALIACÆ.

Panax cephalobotrys, F. Muell., Frag. II., 83.

Tallebudgera.

COMPOSITÆ.

Calotis scapigera, Hook., in Mitch. Trop. Aust. 75.

On the Coochin Coochin flats.

Brachycome basaltica, F. Muell., Frag. I., 50.

Very seldom met with on sandy ridges near the Logan River.

Ammobium alatum, R. Br., in Bot. Mag. t. 2459.

Coochin Coochin.

Cymbonotus Lawsonianus, Gaudich.

The wet flats of Dugundan are sparsely studded with the yellow flowers of this humble composite. Found also abundantly on the Darling Downs, near Toowoomba. It seems to cross the ranges down its eastern slopes, and advances no further east than Dugundan along the Teviot Brook.

GOODENOVIÆ.

Scævola suaveolens, R. Brown, Prod. 585.

The sandy beach which from Nerang Heads goes to Point Danger at certain spots is carpeted by patches of this lovely plant. Although its habitat at Moreton Island was known, I find no mention of it in localities within my area.

Scævola microcarpa, Cav., Ic. VI., t. 509.

Among stony ridges at Coochin Coochin, as also at the Upper Albert River near Nindooimba.

CAMPANULACEÆ.

Lobelia anceps, Thunb., DC., Prod. VII., 375.

Commonly met with at Burleigh Heads, Cleveland, Stradbroke Island, in all kinds of situations.

EPACRIDÆ.

Leucopogon segiter, R. Br., Prod. 545.

Epacris pulchella, Cav., Ic. IV., 26, t. 345.

Both these *Epacridæ* grow in marshes at Burleigh Heads, and Stradbroke Island, near Dunwich.

PRIMULACEÆ.

Samolus repens, Pers. Syn. I., 171.

Under the shade of *Avicennia officinalis* and *Brugniera Reedii*, bathed by the tide. Mr. Bailey and I found this lovely *Samolus* growing both at Cleveland and Stradbroke Island.

APOCYNÆÆ.

Alstonia mollis, Benth., Fl. Aust. IV., 315.

The difference between this and *A. constricta* is so slight, that they might well be thrown into one species. They both abound in a valuable medicinal bitter principle. It grows near the Logan River, and *A. constricta* at Lytton.

SOLANACEÆ.

Solanum semiarmatum, F. Muell., Frag. II., 163.

Solanum campanulatum, R. Br., Prod. 446.

SCROPHULARINÆÆ.

Mimulus gracilis, R. Br., Prod. 439.

On all the damp flats along the Albert and Logan Rivers, this little *Mimulus* abounds. I never met it yet on the north side of the Logan. Specimens can be seen, branched, and over one foot high, but generally it bears out the specific description. It begins flowering in October, goes through November, and even in December some late flowers are seen decking moist prairies.

CONVOLVULACEÆ.

Ipomœa pes-capræ, Roth., Nov. Sp. Pl. 109.

Its long trailing stems crossing the creeping stems of *Vigna lutea* form a net of verdure on the white sands of the sea-shore near the mouth of Nerang Creek. The yellow flowers of one mingling with the purple bells of the other present a pretty sight on that barren ground.

Ipomea Turpethum, R. Br., Prod. 485.

The foliage, inflorescence, capsule and seed point, to this species, but only after the examination of its flowers could it be claimed with certainty as a member of the South Queensland Flora. In the scrub, which crowns the summit of Burleigh Heads, this luxuriant twiner climbs the heights of trees, falls down in festoons, and then trails among stones. It must flower about February or March.

LABIATÆ.

Lycopus australis, R. Br., Prod. 500.

It flowers in January along the Logan River.

Prostanthera lasianthos, Labill., Pl. Nov. Holl., II., 18, t. 157.

In gullies near Mudgerda Creek, and Coomora River is sparsely scattered this shrub, which in these localities attains the height of ten feet. In Tasmania it is a conspicuous tree. Its scented leaves, and never ceasing supply of flowers, which succeed each other in profusion for three months of the year should make this plant a favourite with lovers of garden flowers.

Tencrium corymbosum, R. Br., Prod. 504.

At the top of Tambourine Mountain it grows to be a nuisance to farmers. If allowed to take hold in cultivated ground it will prove a troublesome weed. It flowers in December and January.

PHYTOLACCACEÆ.

Phytolacca octandra, Linn.

Close by stockyards, in broken up ground, and by the road side, especially if through scrubs, this introduced plant is to be seen near Tallebudgera, and the Coomera. Mr. Bailey has found it growing near Brisbane, by the three mile scrub.

PROTEACEÆ.

Strangea linearis, Meissn., in Hook., Kew. Misc. VII., 66.

I met first only one specimen of it on the sandy hills of Stradbroke Island. But on the edges of marshes close to Burleigh Heads, it seems to have its head-quarters, such is the abundance of its growth there. All the examined follicles are monospermous. It flowers in December.

EUPHORBIACEÆ.

Euphorbia pilulifera, Linn.

In many localities. Mr. Bailey first discovered it in South Queensland some time ago on Taylor's Range. It springs up plentifully in burnt country before other vegetation appears. It is said to be a remedy against asthma. The attention of medical men should be directed to this, and other *Euphorbias*, with which we abound.

Croton phebaloides, F. Muell.

It edges Dugundan scrubs along the Teviot Brook, and it is plentiful in Barr Scrub near Beenleigh. It flowers in November and December.

ORCHIDÆ.

Dipodium Hamiltonianum, Bailey, Ined.

This pretty orchid, which Mr. Bailey on our last trip to Dunwich discovered at Stradbroke Island, has been again found by me growing on sandy hills near the Logan village. Its stature is more diminutive than the Dunwich specimens, and the flowers less numerous. It blooms in December.

Pterostylis acuminata. R. Br., Prod. 326.

Near the Logan village, flowering in the month of April.

BURMANNIACEÆ.

Burmattia juncea, Sol., in R. Br., Prod. 265.

As the station for this *Burmattia* given in the Austr. Flora is so remote from our locality, it might be doubtful whether the little filiform *Burmattia*, which grows in such an abundance in wet ground near the Logan River, be *B. juncea*, or *B. disticha*. Still considering the specific characters, which differentiate both, no doubt can be left in the mind of those who observe these forms as to the identity of this with *B. juncea*, and its separation from *B. disticha*. The two grow side by side. A casual observer would not confound them. If this *Burmattia* be a degenerate form of *B. disticha*, because of climatic influences, and difference of soil, how are we to explain the luxuriant growth of *B. disticha* on the same spot, under the same climatical conditions? Mr. Bailey quite concurs with me in the opinion that this cannot be separated from *B. juncea*. It flowers from April to September.

IRIDÆÆ.

Libertia paniculata ? Spreng., Syst. I., 168.

Still a doubt remains in my mind, whether this plant, or its congener *L. pulchella*, be the one I gathered on the Coomora. The only specimen I happened to find, having been mislaid, I am unable to identify it with either one or the other. It flowers in December.

AMARYLLIDÆÆ.

Crinum flaccidum, Herb., in Bot. Mag. 2121 and 2133.

The bulb of this *Crinum* not seen by Bentham is obovate and buried four or six inches below the surface. Its small diameter measures one or one and a-half inches. The perianth lobes are obovate, those of *C. pedunculatum*, being linear. The style measures one-third of the stamens, whereas that of *C. pedunculatum* goes as high as two thirds of them. In the month of December

it grows plentifully on the slopes of sandy hills near the Logan Village, Tambourine, Dugundan.

LILIACEÆ.

Blandfordia flammea, Hook., Bot. Mag., 4819.

This beautiful plant lifts up its head of drooping flowers in marshy places near Burleigh Heads, and Nerang Creek. It grows together with its larger variety *aurea*. The swamps north of Dunwich present a grand appearance when in the months of December and January these *Blandfordiae* are in full bloom. No garden ought to be without this flower, as for beauty it can vie with the best of the lily tribe.

Tricoryne platyptera, Reichb.

This cannot be confused with *T. anceps*, as the stems, besides being slightly flattened, carry wings of about two lines. It grows near Eight Mile Plains.

Caesia vittata, R. Br., Prod. 277.

In grassy flats all over the country south of the Logan River.

ALISMACEÆ.

Damasonium australe, Salib.

In marshy places near Tambourine.

LYCOPODIACEÆ.

Lycopodium cernuum, Linn.

Plentiful in the swamps of Stradbroke Island, seldom to be met with at Burleigh Heads; seen at Eight Mile Plains.

NOTES AND EXHIBITS.

Mr. Whittell exhibited a fine collection of Insects and Birds' Eggs, collected in the Albert and Darling Districts.

Mr. Brazier exhibited *Ancylus Cunninghamsi*, and a supposed new species of *Gundalucnia*, collected by Lieut. C. E. Beddome in Tasmania.

The Hon. James Norton, a fungoid growth of great size from the bark of a Christmas tree.

Mr. Woods, a portion of a pile, showing ravages of marine borers.

Mr. Palmer, Aboriginal Weapons and Implements from Broad Sound, collected by Mr. T. Illidge, of St. Lawrence; Potatoes showing inroads of Potato Moth, with pupa and perfect insect; and a branch of a Chinese Pear tree with fruits from both the Autumn and Spring flowering. The former being perfectly matured, after remaining on the tree during the severe frosts of last winter.



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD, 1881.



The President, J. C. Cox, Esq., M.D., F.L.S., in the Chair.

Captain Maclear, of the H.M.S. "Alert," and Dr. Coppinger, R.N., were introduced as visitors by the President.



MEMBER ELECTED.

Dr. Alessandri, of the University of Pisa.



DONATIONS.

Transactions and Proceedings of the Royal Society of South Australia.

